



United States Department of Agriculture

## Affordable Care Act

# Getting Covered is Good for Rural America

Living in a rural community shouldn't have to come with a hefty price tag for health care. Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, it no longer has to. Find out more at [healthcare.gov](https://healthcare.gov) or 1-800-318-2596—because no one should go without health care because of where they live, or be forced to leave the communities they love to get the coverage they need.

Rural Americans face significant challenges when it comes to getting the health care they need:



**One in five farmers** is in debt because of medical bills.



Prior to ACA, on average, rural families paid nearly **50%** of health care costs out of pocket.



Rural Americans suffer from higher rates of chronic conditions like diabetes, heart disease, and high blood pressure than those living in urban areas.



**One fifth** of America's population lives in rural areas, but only **10%** of physicians practice there.

The Affordable Care Act dedicates substantial new resources to address these challenges:



Expands the National Health Service Corps, which offers scholarships and loan repayment in return for practicing in rural areas. **3,500+** Corps clinicians serve in rural areas. An average of **86%** will continue to practice in rural communities after their term of service has ended.



**7.5 million**

Expands funding for community health centers, where **7.5 million** rural Americans get access to primary and preventive care.



Tax credits and affordable insurance options to help rural families get covered, even if they are self-employed. **7 out of 10** Americans have found coverage for less than a **\$100** a month.

**\$3 billion+**

USDA has also invested more than **\$3 billion** since 2009 to build rural hospitals and clinics and support telemedicine services for remote rural areas.

Find out how you can get covered at [healthcare.gov](https://healthcare.gov) or 1-800-318-2596.